BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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Case No. 3640

KAREN AZIZYAN 13728 Proctor Avenue #D La Puente, CA 91744

Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56494

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This decision shall become effective on September 14, 2012.

It is so ORDERED on August 15, 2012.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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By

STANLEY C. WEISSER Board President

| 1 | KAMALA D. HARRIS | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | Attorney General of California GLORIA A. BARRIOS | | | | | | | |
| 3 | KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California GLORIA A. BARRIOS Supervising Deputy Attorney General KIMBERLEE D. KING | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Deputy Attorney General | | | | | | | |
| | State Bar No. 141813 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2581 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant | | | | | | | |
| 7 | BEFORE THE | | | | | | | |
| 8 | BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS | | | | | | | |
| 9 | STATE OF CALIFORNIA | | | | | | | |
| 10 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3640 | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | KAREN AZIZYAN 13728 Proctor Ave., #D OAH No. L-2011081004 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND | | | | | | | |
| 13 | La Puente, CA 91744 Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH DISCIPLINARY ORDER | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 56494 | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Respondent. | | | | | | | |
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| 18 | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above- | | | | | | | |
| 19 | entitled proceedings that the following matters are true: | | | | | | | |
| 20 | <u>PARTIES</u> | | | | | | | |
| 21 | 1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy. | | | | | | | |
| 22 | She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamala | | | | | | | |
| 23 | D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Kimberlee D. King, Deputy Attorney | | | | | | | |
| 24 | General. | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 2. Respondent Karen Azizyan (Respondent) is representing himself in this proceeding | | | | | | | |
| 26 | and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel. | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 3. On or about May 19, 2004, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician | | | | | | | |
| 28 | License No. TCH 56494 to Karen Azizyan (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician License was | | | | | | | |
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in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 3640 and will expire on December 31, 2011, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 3640 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on April 5, 2011.

 Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 3640 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 3640. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 3640.
- 10. Respondent agrees that his Pharmacy Technician License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Pharmacy may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56494 issued to Respondent Karen Azizyan (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. Certification Prior to Resuming Work

Respondent shall be automatically suspended from working as a pharmacy technician until

he is certified as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4202(a)(4) and provides satisfactory proof of certification to the board. Respondent shall not resume working as a pharmacy technician until notified by the board. Failure to achieve certification within one (1) year shall be considered a violation of probation. Respondent shall not resume working as a pharmacy technician until notified by the board.

During suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of any other board licensed premises (wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs) any drug manufacturer, or any other location where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding or dispensing; nor shall respondent manage, administer, or assist any licensee of the board. Respondent shall not have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume work until notified by the board.

Subject to the above restrictions, respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises by the board in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

2. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent shall report any of the following occurrences to the board, in writing, within seventy-two (72) hours of such occurrence:

- an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the

 Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws
- a plea of guilty or nolo contendre in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment
- a conviction of any crime
- discipline, citation, or other administrative action filed by any state or federal agency

which involves respondent's pharmacy technician license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug, device or controlled substance.

Failure to timely report any such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

3. Report to the Board

Respondent shall report to the board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, respondent shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed, probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted by the board.

4. Interview with the Board

Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the board or its designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to board staff, or failure to appear at two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the board or its designee during the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

5. Cooperate with Board Staff

Respondent shall cooperate with the board's inspection program and with the board's monitoring and investigation of respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of his probation. Failure to cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

6. Notice to Employers

During the period of probation, respondent shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 3640 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on respondent by the decision, as follows:

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of

respondent undertaking any new employment, respondent shall cause his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge (including each new pharmacist-in-charge employed during respondent's tenure of employment) and owner to report to the board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case number 3640 and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgement(s) to the board.

If respondent works for or is employed by or through a pharmacy employment service, respondent must notify his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge and owner at every pharmacy of the terms and conditions of the decision in case number 3640 in advance of the respondent commencing work at each pharmacy. A record of this notification must be provided to the board upon request.

Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of respondent undertaking any new employment by or through a pharmacy employment service, respondent shall cause his direct supervisor with the pharmacy employment service to report to the board in writing acknowledging that he has read the decision in case number 3640 and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the board.

Failure to timely notify present or prospective employer(s) or to cause that/those employer(s) to submit timely acknowledgements to the board shall be considered a violation of probation.

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision shall include any full-time, part-time, temporary or relief service or pharmacy management service as a pharmacy technician or in any position for which a pharmacy technician license is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether the respondent is considered an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

7. Reimbursement of Board Costs

As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, respondent shall pay to the board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$1,700. Respondent shall be

allows to make said payments as required by the Board. Failure to pay costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by respondent shall not relieve respondent of his responsibility to reimburse the board its costs of investigation and prosecution.

8. Probation Monitoring Costs

Respondent shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the board on a schedule as directed by the board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

9. Status of License

Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active, current pharmacy technician license with the board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled. Failure to maintain an active, current license shall be considered a violation of probation.

If respondent's pharmacy technician license expires or is cancelled by operation of law or otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to tolling or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication respondent's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

10. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension

Following the effective date of this decision, should respondent cease work due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, respondent may tender his pharmacy technician license to the board for surrender. The board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the respondent's license history with the board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, respondent shall relinquish his pharmacy technician license to the board within ten (10) days of notification by the board that the surrender is

accepted. Respondent may not reapply for any license, permit, or registration from the board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the board.

11. Notification of a Change in Name, Residence Address, Mailing Address or Employment

Respondent shall notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of any change of employment. Said notification shall include the reasons for leaving, the address of the new employer, the name of the supervisor and owner, and the work schedule if known. Respondent shall further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of a change in name, residence address and mailing address, or phone number.

Failure to timely notify the board of any change in employer(s), name(s), address(es), or phone number(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

12. Tolling of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, respondent shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacy technician in California for a minimum of ten (10) hours per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall toll the period of probation, i.e., the period of probation shall be extended by one month for each month during which this minimum is not met. During any such period of tolling of probation, respondent must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation.

Should respondent, regardless of residency, for any reason (including vacation) cease working as a pharmacy technician for a minimum of ten (10) hours per calendar month in California, respondent must notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of cessation of work and must further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of the resumption of the work. Any failure to provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

It is a violation of probation for respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months, exceeding thirty-six (36) months.

"Cessation of work" means calendar month during which respondent is not working for at least ten (10) hours as a pharmacy technician, as defined in Business and Professions Code section 4115. "Resumption of work" means any calendar month during which respondent is working as a pharmacy technician for at least ten (10) hours as a pharmacy technician as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4115.

13. Violation of Probation

If a respondent has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction over respondent, and probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed.

If respondent violates probation in any respect, the board, after giving respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. Notice and opportunity to be heard are not required for those provisions stating that a violation thereof may lead to automatic termination of the stay and/or revocation of the license. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against respondent during probation, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction, and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided.

14. Completion of Probation

Upon written notice by the board indicating successful completion of probation, respondent's pharmacy technician license will be fully restored.

15. No Ownership of Licensed Premises

Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, or serve as a manager, administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm, partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the board. Respondent shall sell or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the board within ninety (90) days following the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written

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proof thereof to the board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

16. Random Drug Screening

Respondent, at his own expense, shall participate in random testing, including but not limited to biological fluid testing (urine, blood), breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or other drug screening program as directed by the board or its designee. Respondent may be required to participate in testing for the entire probation period and the frequency of testing will be determined by the board or its designee. At all times respondent shall fully cooperate with the board or its designee, and shall, when directed, submit to such tests and samples for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs or other controlled substances as the board or its designee may direct. Failure to timely submit to testing as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Upon request of the board or its designee, respondent shall provide documentation from a licensed practitioner that the prescription for a detected drug was legitimately issued and is a necessary part of the treatment of the respondent. Failure to timely provide such documentation shall be considered a violation of probation. Any confirmed positive test for alcohol or for any drug not lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment shall be considered a violation of probation and shall result in the automatic suspension of work by respondent. Respondent may not resume work as a pharmacy technician until notified by the board in writing.

During suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of or any other board licensed premises (wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs) any drug manufacturer, or any other location where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding or dispensing; nor shall respondent manage, administer, or assist any licensee of the board. Respondent shall not have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume work until notified by the board.

Respondent shall not direct, control or perform any aspect of the practice of pharmacy.

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Subject to the above restrictions, respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

17. Attend Substance Abuse Recovery Relapse Prevention and Support Groups

Within thirty (30) days upon a written demand made by the Board, in conjunction with any confirmed positive test for alcohol or for any drug not lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment, respondent shall begin regular attendance at a recognized and established substance abuse recovery support group in California, (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, etc.) which has been approved by the board or its designee. Respondent must attend at least one group meeting per week unless otherwise directed by the board or its designee. Respondent shall continue regular attendance and submit signed and dated documentation confirming attendance with each quarterly report for the duration of probation. Failure to attend or submit documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

18. Work Site Monitor

Within ten (10) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall identify a work site monitor, for prior approval by the board, who shall be responsible for supervising respondent during working hours. Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that the work site monitor reports in writing to the board quarterly. Should the designated work site monitor determine at any time during the probationary period that respondent has not maintained sobriety, he shall notify the board immediately, either orally or in writing as directed. Should respondent change employment, a new work site monitor must be designated, for prior approval by the board, within ten (10) days of commencing new employment. Failure to identify an acceptable initial or replacement work site monitor, or to ensure quarterly reports are submitted to the board, shall be considered a violation of probation.

19. Notification of Departure

Prior to leaving the probationary geographic area designated by the board or its designee for

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a period greater than twenty-four (24) hours, respondent shall notify the board verbally and in writing of the dates of departure and return. Failure to comply with this provision shall be considered a violation of probation.

20. Abstain from Drugs and Alcohol Use

Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, dangerous drugs and their associated paraphernalia except when the drugs are lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment. Upon request of the board or its designee, respondent shall provide documentation from the licensed practitioner that the prescription for the drug was legitimately issued and is a necessary part of the treatment of the respondent. Failure to timely provide such documentation shall be considered a violation of probation. Respondent shall ensure that he is not in the same physical location as individuals who are using illicit substances even if respondent is not personally ingesting the drugs. Any possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, or their associated paraphernalia not supported by the documentation timely provided, and/or any physical proximity to persons using illicit substances, shall be considered a violation of probation.

21. Prescription Coordination and Monitoring of Prescription Use

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall submit to the board, for its prior approval, the name and qualifications of a single physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist of respondent's choice, who shall be aware of the respondent's history and who will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-altering drugs. The approved practitioner shall be provided with a copy of the board's Accusation and decision. A record of this notification must be provided to the board upon request. Respondent shall sign a release authorizing the practitioner to communicate with the board about respondent's treatment(s). The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist shall report to the board on a quarterly basis for the duration of probation regarding respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances. The board may require that the single coordinating

physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or psychiatrist be a specialist in addictive medicine, or consult a specialist in addictive medicine. Should respondent, for any reason, cease supervision by the approved practitioner, respondent shall notify the board immediately and, within thirty (30) days of ceasing treatment, submit the name of a replacement physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist of respondent's choice to the board or its designee for its prior approval. Failure to timely submit the selected practitioner or replacement practitioner to the board for approval, or to ensure the required reporting thereby on the quarterly reports, shall be considered a violation of probation.

If at any time an approved practitioner determines that respondent is unable to practice safely or independently as a pharmacist, the practitioner shall notify the board immediately by telephone and follow up by written letter within three (3) working days. Upon notification from the board or its designee of this determination, respondent shall be automatically suspended and shall not resume practice until notified by the board that practice may be resumed.

During suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the board, or any manufacturer, or where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the board, or have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified by the board.

During suspension, respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment of a pharmacist. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy. Respondent shall not perform the duties of a pharmacy technician or a designated representative for any entity licensed by the board.

Subject to the above restrictions, respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

22. Tolling of Suspension

During the period of suspension, respondent shall not leave California for any period exceeding ten (10) days, regardless of purpose (including vacation). Any such absence in excess of ten (10) days during suspension shall be considered a violation of probation. Moreover, any absence from California during the period of suspension exceeding ten (10) days shall toll the suspension, i.e., the suspension shall be extended by one day for each day over ten (10) days respondent is absent from California. During any such period of tolling of suspension, respondent must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation.

Respondent must notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of departure, and must further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of return. The failure to provide such notification(s) shall constitute a violation of probation. Upon such departure and return, respondent shall not return to work until notified by the board that the period of suspension has been satisfactorily completed.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 03-26-2012

KAREN AZIZYAN Respondent

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California GLORIA A. BARRIOS Supervising Deputy Attorney General

KIMBERLEE D. KING
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

LA2010600970 Stipulation.rtf

Dated:

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 3640

| 1 | Karla D. Harris | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | Attorney General of California GLORIA A. BARRIOS | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Supervising Deputy Attorney General KIMBERLEE D. KING | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Supervising Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 141813 | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Telephone: (213) 897-2581 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Attorneys for Complainant | | | | | | | |
| 8 | BEFORE THE | | | | | | | |
| 9 | BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS | | | | | | | |
| 10 | STATE OF CALIFORNIA | | | | | | | |
| 11 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3640 | | | | | | | |
| 12 | KAREN AZIZYAN | | | | | | | |
| 13 | La Puente, CA 91744 ACCUSATION | | | | | | | |
| 14 | Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56494 | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Respondent. | | | | | | | |
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| 18 | Complainant alleges: | | | | | | | |
| 19 | PARTIES | | | | | | | |
| 20 | 1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity | | | | | | | |
| 21 | as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs (Board). | | | | | | | |
| 22 | 2. On or about May 19, 2004, the Board issued Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH | | | | | | | |
| 23 | 56494 to Karen Azizyan (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician License was in full force and | | | | | | | |
| 24 | effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2011, | | | | | | | |
| 25 | unless renewed. | | | | | | | |
| 26 | JURISDICTION | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following | | | | | | | |
| 28 | laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated. | | | | | | | |

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 118, subdivision (b), provides that the suspension, expiration, surrender or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
- 5. Section 4300, subdivision (a), states that "[e]very license issued may be suspended or revoked."
 - 6. Section 4301 states, in pertinent part:

"The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct or whose license has been procured by fraud or misrepresentation or issued by mistake.

Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

. . . .

- "(f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
- "(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.

. . . .

"(j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, or any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

, . .

- "(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency. . . ."
 - 7. Section 4059, subdivision (a), states:
- "A person may not furnish any dangerous drug, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7. A

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person may not furnish any dangerous device, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7."

8. Section 4060 states:

"No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, or a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5. or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section 4052. This section shall not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

"Nothing in this section authorizes a certified nurse-midwife, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant, or a naturopathic doctor, to order his or her own stock of dangerous drugs and devices."

COST RECOVERY

9. Section 125.3 states, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES / DANGEROUS DRUGS

Xanax, a brand name for alprazolam, is an anti-anxiety benzodiazepin and is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(1) and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

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FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances)

11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (j), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, for violating sections 4059, subdivision (a), and 4060, in that on or about June 3, 2009, Respondent admitted to being in possession of 30 Xanax obtained for his family from his employer pharmacy without a valid prescription.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Making False Pharmacy Records)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (g), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about June 3, 2009, Respondent created a false state of facts in pharmacy records by taking without a valid prescription 30 tablets of Xanax.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Act Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud, Deceit, or Corruption)

13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (f), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 11 and 12, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct / Violating Pharmacy Law)

14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent committed acts of unprofessional conduct violating pharmacy law. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 11 - 13, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

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PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56494, issued to Respondent;
- 2. Ordering Respondent to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to section 125.3; and
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

| DATED: | 4/5/11 | |
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VIRGINIA MEROLD Executive Officer

Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

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